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Dated: February 23, 2004 Signature:

(Robert B. Conne

Docket No.: SONYTA 3.3-139 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Asano et al.

Application No.: 09/937,120

Group Art Unit: 2132

Filed: December 17, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND

DATA PROCESSING METHOD

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. The cited references were listed on two search reports which issued in connection with applicant's corresponding European application. A copy of these search reports and a copy of each reference are enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: February 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted

Robert B. Cohen

Registration No.: 32,768

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INFORMATION	DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT R	Y APPLICANT

Complete if Known 09/137,120 Application Number December 17, 2001 Filing Date Tomoyuki Asano First Named Inventor RECEIVED

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of

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Art Unit 2132 Not Yet Assigned Examiner Name MAR 0 1 2004 **SONYTA 3.3-139** Attorney Docket Number

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Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	6	
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1A EP 0 989 557 is an English counterpart to WO 99/38164.

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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2Applicant is to place a check mark here if English tanguage Translation is attached.

^{**} with English abstract only.